

**REMARKS**

Reconsideration and allowance in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks are respectfully requested.

Upon entry of this Amendment, claims 42 and 50-56 will be pending in the present application. Claims 51-56 have been newly added, and claims 1-41 and 43-49 have been cancelled.

Applicant notes with appreciation the Examiner's indication that claims 42 and 50 are allowed.

Claims 23, 24, 26, 29, 30, 41, 46, and 47 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,560,353 to Willemot ("the '353 patent") in view of Japanese Patent No. JP 408292916 to Ito ("the '916 patent") or U.S. Patent No. 5,644,444 to Braithwaite et al. ("the '444 patent"). Applicant respectfully submits that this rejection has been rendered moot due to the cancellation of these claims from the present application. New claims 51-56 are believed to recite features not taught or suggested by the cited references. Accordingly, applicant respectfully requests that the above rejection of claims 23, 24, 26, 29, 30, 41, 46, and 47 be withdrawn.

All objections and rejections have been addressed. It is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and a Notice to the effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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